AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of generating a score for a node identified during a parse of a text segment, the method comprising:
    identifying a phrase level for the node;
    identifying a word class for at least one word that neighbors a text spanned by the node by:
        identifying a word class for a word to the left of the text spanned by the node; and
        identifying a word class for a word to the right of the text spanned by the node; and
    generating a score by determining a mutual information metric based on the phrase level and the word class, wherein determining a mutual information metric comprises determining a mutual information metric based on the phrase level of the node, the word class of the word to the right of the text spanned by the node and the word class of the word to the left of the text spanned by the node.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 2 wherein identifying a word class further comprises:
    identifying all possible word classes for a word to the left of the text spanned by the node; and

identifying all possible word classes for a word to the
right of the text spanned by the node.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein generating a score
comprises generating a score based in part on all of the
identified word classes.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein identifying a word
class comprises identifying all possible word classes for at
least one word.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (New) A method of generating a score for a node identified during a parse of a text segment, the method comprising:

    identifying a phrase level for the node;

    identifying a word class for at least one word that neighbors a text spanned by the node by:

        identifying all possible word classes for a word to the left of the text spanned by the node; and

        identifying all possible word classes for a word to the right of the text spanned by the node; and

    generating a score by determining a mutual information metric based on the phrase level and the word class, wherein generating a score comprises generating a score based in part on all of the identified word classes.

24. (New) The method of claim 23 wherein determining a mutual information metric comprises determining a mutual information metric based on the phrase level of the node, the word class of the word to the right of the text spanned by the node and the word class of the word to the left of the text spanned by the node.